

REMARKS

Claims 1-3, 5, 7-46 and 65-84 are pending in the subject application. By this Amendment, applicants have amended claims 12-16, 19-21, 27-31, 35, 36, 38, 40 and 46. Accordingly, upon entry of this Amendment, claims 1-3, 5, 7-46 and 65-84 as amended will be pending and under examination.

Applicants maintain that the amendments to the claims do not raise an issue of new matter. Support for the amendments to claims 12-16 and 19 can be found at least in claim 12. Support for the amendment to claim 20 can be found *inter alia* in the specification at least in Figure 2. Support for the amendment to claim 21 can be found *inter alia* in the specification at least on page 27, laminate 2. Support for the amendments to claims 27-31 and 35 can be found at least in claim 27. Support for the amendment to claim 36 can be found at least in the previous version of claim 36 and in claim 42. Support for the amendment to claim 38 can be found *inter alia* in the specification at least on page 21, lines 22-28; page 35, lines 9-12; and page 40, lines 4-5; in Figure 3A; and in previous claim 38. Support for the amendment to claim 40 can be found *inter alia* in the specification at least on page 25, lines 11-17; page 35, lines 9-12; and page 40, lines 4-5; in Figure 3A; and in previous claim 40. Support for the amendment to claim 46 can be found at least in claims 44-46. Accordingly, entry of the Amendment is respectfully requested.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §112, Second Paragraph

Claims 20-26, 32, 33, 38, 40-42, 67, 68, 80 and 84 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph.

Claim 20 and dependent claim 41 are rejected because there is insufficient antecedent support in claim 20 for the limitation “the layer farthest from the substrate” since only one layer is provided on the substrate. Claim 20 has been amended hereinabove to recite that “the ultraviolet block layer comprises a plurality of layers...” Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of this ground of rejection are respectfully requested.

Claims 21-26, 32, 33, 67, 68, 80 and 84 are rejected because claim 21 (b) is missing an essential element, specifically “an ultraviolet radiation absorber.” Claim 21 has been amended hereinabove to recite the omitted element. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of this ground of rejection are respectfully requested.

Claim 38 and 40 are rejected for lack of clarity. Claim 38 has been amended to recite “a surface of the material to be transferred comprises an image formed by an ink jet recording system or a thermal transfer printing system.” Similarly, claim 40 has been amended to recite “a surface of the material to be layered comprises an image formed by an ink jet recording system or a thermal transfer printing system.” Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of this ground of rejection are respectfully requested.

Claim 42 is rejected because there is insufficient antecedent basis for “color material-receiving layer of the ultraviolet block material of claim 36...” Claim 36 has hereinabove been amended to provide the required antecedent basis. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of this ground of rejection are respectfully requested.

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Claim Language Suggestions

Applicants thank the Examiner for the claim language suggestions which have hereinabove been incorporated by amendment into the claims.

Allowable Subject Matter

The Examiner indicated that claims 1-3, 5, 7-19, 27-31, 34-39, 43-46, 65, 66, 69-79 and 81-83 are allowed and that claims 20-26, 32, 33, 40-42, 67, 68, 80 and 84 would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, addressed hereinabove and to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Applicants thank the Examiner for this indication of allowable subject matter. The claims have been amended hereinabove to overcome the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, and to incorporate claim language suggested by the Examiner.

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CONCLUSION

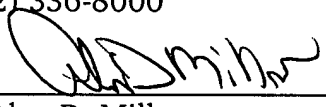
In view of the amendments and remarks made hereinabove, applicants respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw the rejections set forth in the January 5, 2004 Office Action and earnestly solicit allowance of the pending claims.

No fee is deemed necessary in connection with the filing of this Amendment. However, if any fee is required to preserve the pendency of the subject application, authorization is hereby given to charge the amount of any such fee to Deposit Account No. 01-1785.

Respectfully submitted,

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